

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/708,496

Amendment filed September 25, 2007

Reply to OA dated June 25, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An information processing terminal which is connected
2 onto a network to which a plurality of additional information processing terminals are connected,
3 and transmits a signal when it acquires a transmission privilege on the network, comprising:

4 a bus status detecting means for detecting whether said network is busy or idle;

5 a counting means for repeating count-up to reach a idle time unit if the network is idle as a
6 detected result of said bus status detecting means, wherein a node ID of said information processing
7 terminal is set to be equal to a default node ID0;

8 a control means for managing a parameter incremented whenever the idle time unit is
9 detected as a result of count-up by said counting means and creating a transmission frame when said
10 parameter is equal to said node ID of said information processing terminal ~~agrees with its own node~~
11 ~~ID having a default node ID0 allotted to each node as an initial value;~~ and

12 a transmitting means for transmitting the transmission frame created by said control means.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): An information processing terminal according to claim
2 1, further comprising a receiving means for receiving the transmission frame,
3 wherein said transmission frame transmitted from one of said additional ~~the other~~ information

4 processing ~~terminal~~ terminals connected to said network includes the default node ID0, and
5 said control means extracts the default node ID0 included in the transmission frame received
6 by said receiving means and updates said parameter to said default node ID0.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): An information processing terminal according to claim
2 2, further comprising a synchronizing error detecting means for detecting within its own terminal
3 an error which affects the synchronization with said one of said additional ~~the other~~ information
4 processing ~~terminal~~ terminals on said network and relates to counting of said parameter,
5 wherein when the error is detected by said synchronizing error detecting means, said control
6 means sets said node ID of said information processing terminal to be equal to a sum of said default
7 node ID0 and a maximum node number n ~~its new own node ID at the sum of a prescribed value~~
8 ~~enough to continue the period dedicated to reception for a prescribed time and said default node ID0,~~
9 and thereafter when said transmission frame is normally received by said receiving means, said
10 control means updates said parameter to said default node ID0 included in said transmission frame.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): An information processing terminal according to one
2 of claims 1 to 3, having a transmission privilege providing system wherein a ~~A transmission~~
3 ~~privilege rounding system wherein a plurality of information processing terminals one of which is~~
4 ~~defined by one of claims 1 to 3 are connected to the same network, and said transmission privilege~~
5 is provided to each of ~~rounded among~~ said information processing terminal and said plurality of

6 additional information processing terminals one at a time.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for providing ~~rounding~~ a transmission
2 privilege to each of a plurality of nodes one at a time, said plurality of nodes being connected on a
3 network ~~to which a plurality of nodes are connected~~, comprising the steps to be carried out by each
4 of said nodes of:

5 detecting whether said network is busy or idle, repeating count-up to reach an idle time unit
6 if said network is idle, and

7 incrementing a parameter whenever said idle time is detected;

8 transmitting the transmission frame inclusive of the node ID if said parameter agree with the
9 node ID;

10 extracting said node ID included in said transmission frame when said transmission frame
11 is received from the network and updating said parameter to said node ID.

1 Claim 6 (original): A computer-readable transmission privilege acquisition program
2 loaded in a node which can transmit a signal onto a network to which a plurality of nodes are
3 connected when each node acquires a transmission privilege, said program causing a computer to
4 execute:

5 processing of detecting whether said network is busy or idle;

6 processing of repeatedly counting to reach a idle time unit if said network is idle;

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7 processing of incrementing a parameter whenever said idle time is detected, thereby creating
8 a transmission frame inclusive of the node ID if said parameter agree with the node ID; and
9 processing of transmitting the transmission frame thus created.

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